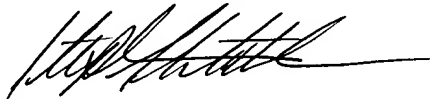


REMARKS

Applicants assert that the present submission fully complies with the Examiner's request as set forth in the Notice and with the applicable rules regarding amendments to the claims. For this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered and that the case proceed to further examination.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Schlather
Registration No.: 45,081

Date: July 23, 2004
Schlumberger Technology Corporation
IP Dept. Well Stimulation
110 Schlumberger Drive, MD1
Phone: 281-285-4524
Fax: 281-285-8569